



Committed to the future of rural communities.

Iowa — Community Programs

Community Building

Improving Health Care in North Central Iowa

Outline Of Need:

The 22-bed critical access hospital in Belmond was built in 1952 and is not large enough to meet the healthcare needs of area residents.

How Rural Development Helped:

USDA Rural Development recently awarded the Belmond Community Hospital with \$24 million in guaranteed and direct loans to help with the renovation and expansion of the facility. Nearly all of these funds are from the Recovery Act.

The Results:

When completed, the hospital will have nearly 50,000 square-feet and include a new hospital entrance, emergency room, surgery area, acute-care area, therapy area and helicopter stop. The remodeling will add additional clinic, specialty clinic and office space.

“The expansion and renovation of Belmond Community Hospital is essential to meeting the current and future health care needs of the Belmond community and surrounding patient areas,” said Nancy Gabrielson, chief executive officer, Belmond Community



Photo:

The hospital addition project in Belmond, Iowa, will help meet the healthcare needs of area residents.

Hospital. “Without the direct loan from USDA Rural Development the project wouldn’t have been possible.”

The new emergency room location and helicopter stop are especially important to the Belmond community. Every second counts with a critical patient and the closest specialty trauma level two emergency hospital is 40 miles north of Belmond. With the current facility the helicopter must land at the north edge of Belmond and valuable time is lost transporting the critical care crew and the patient.

The new addition is expected to be completed by January 2012 and the remodeling finished by July 2012.

Fast Facts

Program: Community Facilities Loan Programs

Investment: \$24 million

Partners: First State Bank in Belmond

Demographics:

Belmond, Iowa

Rural Population— 2,376

Impact:

- Short-term—construction jobs created
- Long-term— quality healthcare options in rural community.

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